

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 28, and 31, as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method, operable in a first application upon a local machine, of forming a single continuous printable document by collating a plurality of hyper-text documents, said method comprising the steps of:

monitoring access patterns of a second application to the plurality of hyper-text documents, said first application allowing the said second application to operate operating on the local machine independently of operations of said first application, with access to the hyper-text documents by the second application occurring independently of said first application, wherein the monitoring identifies the plurality of hyper-text documents accessed independently by the second application;

accessing the plurality of hyper-text documents and formatting information of the plurality of hyper-text documents;

compiling a list of the plurality of accessed hyper-text documents using the formatting information;

fetching the plurality of accessed hyper-text documents compiled to the list; and

formatting the plurality of fetched hyper-text documents using the formatting information into the single continuous printable document in which at least one said fetched hyper-text document is spatially contiguously followed by another said fetched hyper-text document on the same page of said single continuous printable document.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the printable document is updated upon new hyper-text pages being accessed by the second application.

4. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said steps are performed by said first application in a background mode relative to access to the hyper-text documents by the second application.

5-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the formatting step formats the printable document for multiple column page printing on a printer output device.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the printable document comprises a table of contents listing each hyper-text document represented in the printable document wherein each entry in the table of contents is labeled

with the position at which the corresponding hyper-text document occurs within the printable document.

10. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the printable document comprises a hyper-link index of at least one hyper link reference of each hyper-text document represented in the printable document.

11. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 10, wherein each hyper-link reference in the printable document is tagged with a cross-reference to a corresponding entry in the hyper-link index.

12. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 10, wherein said hyper-link index comprises all hyper-link references of each hyper-text document represented in the printable document.

13-26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) A computer implemented method for forming a single continuous printable document by collating a plurality of documents, said method being operable in a first application upon a local computer, said documents being obtained from a plurality of sources by a second application independently operable from said first application upon said local computer, said method comprising the steps of:

monitoring accesses by the second application to the plurality of documents in sequence, the access occurring independently of operation of said first application, with the monitoring identifying the plurality of documents;

recording from the plurality of sources the contents of a plurality of selected ones of the identified documents including formatting information relating to each selected document; and

collating the plurality of selected documents according to a predetermined order of collation to form the single continuous printable document, said collating step comprising the step of arranging at least one display page displaying a plurality of the selected documents according to a size of each selected document based upon the corresponding formatting information and with at least one said selected document being spatially contiguously followed by another said selected document, wherein the printable document is reproducible at least by printing.

28. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

a network comprising a source of a plurality of documents each individually accessible via a corresponding resource locator and in which the plurality of documents include therein links that afford access to a plurality of other documents;

access means, operable in a local computer, for independently accessing the plurality of documents;

means, operable in said local computer, for monitoring said independent accessing of the plurality of documents by said access means via said resource locator and

for compiling a list of the accessed plurality of documents, the list including the links and formatting information pertaining to each accessed document, the means for monitoring allowing the access means to operate on the local machine independent of operation of the means for monitoring; and

means, operable in said local computer, independent of operation of said access means, for retrieving from said network and collating the plurality of accessed documents represented in the list into a selected order and for formatting the plurality of accessed documents within the list using the formatting information into a single continuous printable document having at least components corresponding to the plurality of accessed documents arranged in the selected order and in which at least one said accessed document is spatially contiguously followed by another said accessed document on the same page of said single printable document.

29. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium having recorded thereon a first computer program including instruction modules arranged to make a computer execute a procedure to collate for printing a single continuous document composed of a plurality of documents derived by a second computer program from a plurality of sources in a network, said second computer program being operable independently of the first computer program, said modules comprising:

a monitoring module for monitoring browsing operations performed by the second computer program throughout the network, the browsing operations being performed independently of operation of the first computer program;

a compiling module for compiling a list of the plurality of documents and corresponding formatting information monitored during the browsing operations;

a collating module for retrieving from said network the plurality of documents from the list and for collating said retrieved documents into a single continuous printable document in which each document is formatted according to corresponding formatting information derived during the monitoring and at least one of the plurality of documents is spatially contiguously followed by another one of the plurality of documents on a page of said single continuous document; and

a printing module for causing a printing of the single continuous document thereby causing hard copy reproduction of the plurality of documents and causing said at least one of the plurality of documents and said another one of the plurality of documents to be printed on one page.

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) A computer program product having a computer readable medium having a computer program recorded thereon for forming a printable document by collating a plurality of hyper-text documents, said computer program being operable upon a local computer independently of a browser program by which said hyper-text documents are accessible, said computer program product comprising:

means for monitoring access patterns of said browser program by which access to the plurality of hyper-text documents, the means for monitoring allowing is

obtained; the access to the hyper-text documents by the browser program to occur occurring independently of operation of the computer program;

means for accessing the plurality of hyper-text documents and formatting information of the accessed hyper-text documents;

means for compiling a list of the plurality of hyper-text documents using the formatting information;

means for fetching, independently of said browser program, the plurality of hyper-text documents compiled in the list; and

means for formatting the plurality of fetched hyper-text documents using the formatting information into a single continuous printable document comprising the plurality of fetched hyper-text documents in which at least one said accessed hyper-text document is spatially contiguously followed by another said fetched hyper-text document on the same page of said single continuous printable document.

32. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the formatting step maximizes the number of the hyper-text documents on each page of the single continuous printable document.

33. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 32, wherein the formatting step formats each hyper-text document according to a predetermined printable document format, determining if space exists on a page of the single continuous printable document for a formatted hyper-text document and, if so, inserting the formatted hyper-text

document into the single continuous printable document and, if not, creating a further page in the single continuous printable document and inserting the formatted hyper-text document into the further page.

34-37. (Cancelled)

38. (Previously Presented) A computer implemented method for forming a single continuous printable document by collating a plurality of hyper-text documents, said method being executable to perform the steps of:

initiating a first application on a local computer for accessing and browsing the plurality of hyper-text documents; and

initiating a second application on said local computer, said second application comprising the steps of:

monitoring access patterns of the first application to the plurality of hyper-text documents accessed by the first application, the access by the first application being independent of operation of the second application;

fetching, independently of operation of the first application, the plurality of hyper-text documents accessed by the first application and corresponding formatting information of the plurality of hyper-text documents; and

creating a formatted single continuous printable document version of the plurality of fetched hyper-text documents using the formatting information in which at least one said fetched hyper-text document is spatially contiguously followed by another

said fetched hyper-text document on the same page of said single continuous printable document.

39-41. (Cancelled)

42. (Previously Presented) A method, operable in a first application upon a local machine, of forming a printable document by collating a plurality of documents, said method comprising the steps of:

monitoring a second application, operating independently of said first application on said local machine, to identify the plurality of documents accessed by the second application, the access to the documents occurring independently of operation of first application;

compiling a list of the plurality of documents accessed by the second application;

fetching, independently of the second application, the plurality of accessed documents in the compiled list; and

formatting the plurality of fetched documents for printing.

43. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said second application comprises a browser application operable by a user upon a local machine.

44. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 42, wherein said plurality of documents comprise hyper-text documents and further comprising, after the monitoring step and before the compiling step, the further step of accessing the plurality of hyper-text documents and formatting information of the accessed hyper-text documents, wherein the formatting step formats said plurality of hyper-text documents using said formatting information.

45. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 42, wherein said second application comprises a browser application operable by a user upon a local machine.

46. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium comprising a computer program operable as a first application upon a local machine to form a printable document by collating a plurality of documents, said first application comprising:
code for monitoring a second application operating independently of said first application on said local machine, to identify the plurality of documents accessed by the second application, access to the documents occurring independently of operation of the first application;

code for compiling a list of the plurality of documents accessed by the second application;

code for fetching, independently of the second application, the plurality of accessed documents in the compiled list; and

code for formatting the plurality of fetched hyper-text documents for printing.

47. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium according to claim 46, wherein said plurality of documents comprise hyper-text documents, said second application comprises a browser application operable by a user upon a local machine, and said program further comprises:

code for accessing, from said monitoring, the plurality of hyper-text documents,

wherein said code for formatting formats said plurality of hyper-text documents using said formatting information.

48. (Previously Presented) A method, operable in a first application upon a local machine, of forming a single continuous printable document by collating a plurality of documents in the first application, said method comprising the steps of:

monitoring a user's access via a second application to the plurality of documents, the access occurring independently of operation of the first application;

compiling a list of the plurality of accessed documents, based on monitoring of the user's access pattern via the second application to the document in said monitoring step;

displaying the list of the plurality of documents accessed by the second application for enabling selection of at least one of the documents to be printed; and

fetching, independently of the second application, each document selected from the list and formatting said fetched documents into the single continuous printable document in which at least one fetched document is contiguously followed by another fetched document on the same page of the single continuous printable document.

49. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 48, further comprising the step of displaying the single continuous printable document formatted in said formatting step.

50. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 48, wherein said fetching comprises fetching the document in the compiling step via a network and storing the fetched document in a memory, wherein the stored document is used in said formatting step.

51. (Previously Presented) A computer program product for forming a single continuous printable document by collating a plurality of documents in a first application, the computer program product controlling a computer to perform the steps of: monitoring a user's access to the plurality of documents, said access being performed via a second application operating upon the computer independently of said first application with the access to the documents being independent of operation of the first application;

compiling a list of the plurality of accessed documents, based on monitoring of the user's access pattern via a second application to the document in said monitoring step;

displaying the list of the plurality of documents accessed by the second application for enabling selection of at least one of the documents to be printed; and independently of said second application, fetching and formatting each document selected from the list into the single continuous printable document in which at least one selected document is contiguously followed by another selected document on the same page of the single continuous printable document.

52. (Previously Presented) A computer program product as claimed in claim 51, wherein the computer program product controls the computer to perform the step of displaying the single continuous printable document formatted in said formatting step.

53. (Previously Presented) A computer program product as claimed in claim 51, wherein the computer program product controls the computer to perform the steps of fetching the document in the list compiled in said compiling step via a network and storing the fetched document in a memory, and wherein the stored document is used in said formatting step.

54. (Previously Presented) a method, operable in a first application upon a local machine, of forming a single continuous printable document by collating a plurality of hyper-text documents, said method comprising the steps of:

monitoring a second application operating independently of the first application on said local machine, to compile a print list related to the plurality of hyper-text documents accessed by the second application without waiting for an instruction of the first application, wherein said monitoring adds information of newly accessed ones of said hyper-text documents to the print list in accordance with access by the second application to those documents;

fetching the plurality of accessed hyper-text documents compiled in the print list as the print list is updated; and

formatting the plurality of fetched hyper-text documents into the single printable continuous document in which at least one of said fetched hyper-text documents is spatially contiguously followed by another said fetched hyper-text document on the same page of said single continuous printable document.

55. (Previously Presented) A computer apparatus operable using a first means of said apparatus for forming a single continuous printable document by collating a plurality of hyper-text documents, said first means comprising:

monitoring means for monitoring a second means, operating independently of said first means and as part of said apparatus, to compile a print list related to the

plurality of hyper-text documents accessed by the second means independent of operation of the first means,

wherein said monitoring means adds information of newly accessed ones of said hyper-text documents to the print list in accordance with access by the second means to those documents;

fetching means for fetching the plurality of accessed hyper-text documents compiled in the print list as the print list is updated; and

formatting means for formatting the plurality of fetched hyper-text documents into the single printable continuous document in which at least one of said fetched hyper-text documents is spatially contiguously followed by another said fetched hyper-text document on the same page of said single continuous printable document.

56. (Previously Presented A computer readable medium comprising a computer program, operable as a first application upon a local machine, for forming a single continuous printable document by collating a plurality of hyper-text documents, said program comprising:

code for monitoring a second application, the second application being operable independently of said first application on said local machine, to compile a print list related to the plurality of hyper-text documents accessed by the second application independent of operation of the first application,

wherein said code for monitoring adds information of newly accessed ones of said hyper-text documents to the print list in accordance with access by the second application to those documents;

code for fetching the plurality of accessed hyper-text documents compiled in the print list as the print list is updated; and

code for formatting the plurality of fetched hyper-text documents into the single printable continuous document in which at least one of said fetched hyper-text documents is spatially contiguously followed by another said fetched hyper-text document on the same page of said single continuous printable document.

57. (Previously Presented) A computer apparatus for forming a single continuous printable document by collating a plurality of documents through execution of a first application, said computer apparatus comprising:

monitoring means forming part of said first application for monitoring a user's access patterns via a second application to the plurality of documents, the access to the documents by the second application occurring independent of operation of the first application;

compiling means forming apart of said first application for compiling a list of the plurality of accessed documents, based on the monitoring of the user's access patterns via the second application to the document;

displaying means forming part of said first application for displaying the list of the plurality of documents accessed by the second application for enabling selection of at least one of the documents to be printed; and

fetching means forming part of said first application for fetching, independently of the second application, each document selected from the list and formatting said fetched documents into the single continuous printable document in which at least one fetched document is contiguously followed by another fetched document on the same page of the single continuous printable document.